

Serial No. 10/539,668

Art Unit: 1751

**In the Claims:**

Please enter the following amended claims in the application. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

**Listing of Claims:**

Claims 1-10 (Canceled)

Claim 11 (Currently amended): A process for the preparation of a water containing composition comprising at least one member selected from the group consisting of alkyl oligoglycoside carboxylic acid salts and alkenyl oligoglycoside carboxylic acid salts with a residual content of halocarbon compounds which comprises: heating an aqueous mixture comprising at least one preformed member selected from the group consisting of alkyl oligoglycoside carboxylic acid salts and alkenyl oligoglycoside carboxylic acid salts, water and residual halocarbon compounds at a pH of from 10 to 14 and a temperature of from 50° to 120°C, whereby a mixture with a reduced content of residual halocarbon compounds is formed.

Claim 12 (Currently amended): The process of claim 11 which further comprises:

(1) reacting an aqueous mixture comprising at least one member selected from the group consisting of alkyl oligoglycosides and alkenyl oligoglycosides with at least one member selected from the group consisting of halocarboxylic acids and halocarboxylic acid salts to form an aqueous reaction mixture containing alkyl oligoglycoside carboxylic acid salts, alkenyl oligoglycoside carboxylic acid salts and residual halocarbon compounds; and

(2) heating the aqueous reaction mixture at a pH of from 10 to 14 to form a heated reaction mixture with a reduced content of residual halocarbon compounds.

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Claim 13 (Previously presented): The process as claimed in claim 12, wherein the alkyl and/or alkenyl oligoglycoside comprises a composition of the formula:



where  $R^1$  is an alkyl and/or alkenyl group containing 4 to 22 carbon atoms, G is a sugar unit containing 5 or 6 carbon atoms and p is a number of 1 to 10.

Claim 14 (Previously presented): The process as claimed in claim 13, wherein the oligoglycoside comprises an alkyl glucoside of the formula (I), wherein  $R^1$  is a  $C_{12-18}$  alkyl group, G is a glucose residue and p is a number of 1 to 1.8.

Claim 15 (Previously presented): The process as claimed in claim 12, wherein the halocarboxylic acid or salt thereof comprises a compound of the formula:



wherein n is a number of 1 to 5 and X is hydrogen or an alkali metal.

Claim 16 (Previously presented): The process as claimed in claim 12, wherein the halocarboxylic acid or halocarboxylic acid salt comprises chloroacetic acid or its sodium salt.

Claim 17 (Previously presented): The process as claimed in claim 12, wherein the alkyl and/or alkenyl oligoglycosides and the halocarboxylic acid or its salt are used in a molar ratio of 1:0.9 to 1:5.

Claim 18 (Previously presented): The process as claimed in claim 11, wherein the aqueous

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mixture comprises at least one member selected from the group consisting of alkyl oligoglycoside carboxylic acid salts and alkenyl oligoglycoside carboxylic salts in a concentration of 30 to 60% by weight.

Claim 19 (Previously presented): The process as claimed in claim 11, wherein the pH of the aqueous mixture is adjusted to a range of 10 to 14 by addition of aqueous alkali metal compounds.

Claim 20 (Previously presented): The process as claimed in claim 11, wherein the aqueous mixture is heated at a temperature of 70 to 90°C.

Claim 21 (Currently amended): The process as claimed in claim 11, wherein the aqueous mixture contains residual organochlorine compounds and is heated until a content of residual organomonochlorine compounds is below 5 ppm and a content of residual organodichlorine compounds is below 30 ppm.

Claim 22 (Currently amended): The process of claim 12, wherein the aqueous reaction mixture of step (1) comprises at least one member selected from the group consisting of alkyl oligoglycoside carboxylic acid salts and alkenyl oligoglycoside carboxylic salts in a concentration of 30 to 60% by weight.

Claim 23 (Currently amended): The process of claim 12, wherein the pH of the aqueous reaction mixture of step (1) is adjusted to a range of 10 to 14 by addition of aqueous alkali metal compounds.

Claim 24 (Currently amended): The process of claim 12, wherein in step (2) the aqueous reaction mixture is heated at a temperature of 70 to 90°C.

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Claim 25 (Currently amended): The process of claim 12, wherein the aqueous reaction mixture of step (1) contains residual organo chlorine compounds and is heated until a content of residual organomonochlorine compounds is below 5 ppm and a content of residual organodichlorine compounds is below 30 ppm.

Claim 26 (Previously presented): The process of claim 13, wherein the aqueous mixture comprises at least one member selected from the group consisting of alkyl oligoglycoside carboxylic acid salts and alkenyl oligoglycoside carboxylic salts in a concentration of 30 to 60% by weight.

Claim 27 (Previously presented): The process of claim 13, wherein the pH of the aqueous mixture is adjusted to a range of 10 to 14 by addition of aqueous alkali metal compounds.

Claim 28 (Previously presented): The process of claim 13, wherein the aqueous mixture is heated at a temperature of 70 to 90°C.

Claim 29 (Currently amended): The process of claim 13, wherein the aqueous mixture contains residual organo chlorine compounds and is heated until a content of residual organomonochlorine compounds is below 5 ppm and a content of residual organodichlorine compounds is below 30 ppm.

Claim 30 (Previously presented): The process of claim 15, wherein the aqueous mixture comprises at least one member selected from the group consisting of alkyl oligoglycoside carboxylic acid salts and alkenyl oligoglycoside carboxylic salts in a concentration of 30 to 60% by weight.